



COLORADO


Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety

Department of Natural Resources

PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-012 Mine Name: New Elk Mine Operator: New Elk Coal Company, LLC Operator Address: Mr. Mark Gray 12250 Highway 12 Weston, CO 81091	County: Las Animas Operation Type: Underground Permit Status: Active Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: Nick Mason
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: July 19, 2023 Inspection Start Time: 08:00 Inspection End Date: July 19, 2023 Inspection End Time: 12:30		Inspection Type: Coal Partial Inspection Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Clear	
Joint Inspection Agency: None		Joint Inspection Contacts:	
Post Inspection Agency: None		Post Inspection Contacts:	
Inspector(s): Brock Bowles	Inspector's Signature: 		Signature Date:

Inspection Topic Summary

NOTE: Y=Inspected N=Not Inspected R=Comments Noted V=Violation Issued NA=Not Applicable

N - Air Resource Protection

N - Availability of Records

N - Backfill & Grading

N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Explosives

N - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

R - Processing Waste

N - Roads

N - Reclamation Success

N - Revegetation

N - Subsidence

N - Slides and Other Damage

N - Support Facilities On-site

N - Signs and Markers

N - Support Facilities Not On-site

N - Special Categories Of Mining

N - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This partial inspection was conducted by Brock Bowles of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). Nick Mason of the New Elk CC was present for the inspection. The weather was clear and warm with a light breeze. The ground was dry. The mine was not producing coal and is in care and maintenance status.

HYDROLOGIC BALANCE - Rule 4.05

Drainage Control 4.05.1, 4.05.2, 4.05.3; Siltation Structures 4.05.5, 4.05.6; Discharge Structures 4.05.7, 4.05.10; Diversions 4.05.4; Effluent Limits 4.05.2; Ground Water Monitoring 4.05.13; Surface Water Monitoring 4.05.13; Drainage – Acid and Toxic Materials 4.05.8; Impoundments 4.05.6, 4.05.9; Stream Buffer Zones 4.05.18:

Pond 7 contained a small puddle of water and was not discharging (photo 1). The primary and emergency spillways were clear of obstructions.

The sediment trap on the east end of DWDA #2 contained some water. The embankment was in good condition and culvert C13 was free and clear of obstructions (photo 2).

GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:

The hillside north of the wash plant is sprouting vegetation (photo 3). The soil appears stable as no erosion features were seen. The berm above the hillside is in good condition and directing water to ditch D32A and Pond 7 as designed.

PROCESSING WASTE/COAL MINE WASTE PILES – Rule 4.10 and 4.11

Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization; Placement:

The top of the RDA was sloped to direct rain water to the perimeter ditch around the pile. No ponding water was seen on top of the pile (photo 4).

The perimeter ditch on the west side of the RDA has a high spot preventing water from flowing off the pile and into Pond 8. There was no ponded water at this time. The west perimeter ditch needs to have this high spot

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0

removed to ensure positive water flow to Pond 8.

The RDA western perimeter ditch needs to be re-established in the area of the rock underdrain. The ditch in this area is not well defined and it is possible that water from the perimeter ditch is being directed into the underdrain. Diversion ditches are to be maintained to divert runoff away from the underdrain to minimize clogging as per 2.05.1(8) of the permit.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED

OTHER (SPECIFY)

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

No enforcement actions were initiated as a result of this inspection, nor are any pending.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1 – Pond 7

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Photo 2 – DWDA#2 sediment trap and culvert C13



Photo 3 – Hillside north of wash plant

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Photo 4 – top of RDA

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



Inspection reports

1 message

Bowles - DNR, Brock <brock.bowles@state.co.us>
To: Nick Mason <nmason@newelkcoal.com>

Thu, Jul 27, 2023 at 2:45 PM

Nick,
Here are the inspection reports for New Elk (C-1981-012) and the Lorencito (C-1996-084) Mines.
Brock

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Brock Bowles
Environmental Protection Specialist



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2 attachments

- INSP-REPORTC_C1981012_ANM_07272023021436.pdf**
3971K
- INSP-REPORTC_C1996084_ANM_07252023014003.pdf**
1388K